

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, August 30, 2016
MAG Office Building
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Rhonda Humbles, Peoria, Chair	Richard Allen, Salt River Pima-Maricopa
* Patrick Murphy, Mesa, Vice Chair	Indian Community
# Shawn Kreuzwiesner for Cindy Blackmore,	Manuel Castillo, Scottsdale
Avondale	Christina Betz, Surprise
Robert van den Akker, Buckeye	Steven Pietrzykowski for Tony Miano, Tempe
# Sheree Sepulveda, Chandler	* Helen Heiden, Arizona Chamber of
* Nick Russo, El Mirage	Commerce and Industry
Brad Frisk for Gilbert	Robin Thomas, Arizona Department of
Michelle Woytenko, Glendale	Environmental Quality
Adam Kurtz, Goodyear	Chris Coyle, Arizona Forward
* Chuck Ransom, Litchfield Park	* Michael Denby, Arizona Public Service
* Jerry Cooper, Paradise Valley	* Jill Bernstein, Keep Arizona Beautiful
Ginger Spencer, Phoenix	Brian Kehoe, Maricopa County
Ramona Simpson, Queen Creek	* Wendy Crites, Salt River Project

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

#Attended by telephone conference call.

+Participated via video conference call.

OTHERS PRESENT

Julie Hoffman, Maricopa Association of
Governments
Kara Johnson, Maricopa Association of
Governments

Lanre Suleiman, Mandela Washington
Fellowship/City of Phoenix

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the MAG Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) was conducted on Tuesday, August 30, 2016. Rhonda Humbles, City of Peoria, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. Sheree Sepulveda, City of Chandler, and Shawn Kreuzwiesner, City of Avondale, attended the meeting via telephone conference call. Chair Humbles encouraged Committee members to speak into the microphones so that the audience and teleconferencing members can hear.

Chair Humbles indicated that copies of the handouts for the meeting are available. She noted for members attending through audio conference, the presentations for the meeting will be posted on the

MAG website under Resources for the Committee agenda, whenever possible. If it is not possible to post them before the meeting, they will be posted after the meeting.

2. Call to the Audience

Chair Humbles provided an opportunity for members of the public to address the Committee on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG or items on the agenda for discussion, but not for action. She noted that according to the MAG public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out comment cards, which are available on the tables adjacent to the doorways inside the meeting room. Citizens are asked not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. Chair Humbles noted that no public comment cards had been received.

3. Approval of the March 22, 2016 Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the March 22, 2016 meeting. Richard Allen, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, moved, and Robert van den Akker, City of Buckeye, seconded, and the motion to approve the March 22, 2016 meeting minutes, carried unanimously.

4. Mutual Aid Agreement Update

Julie Hoffman, Maricopa Association of Governments, provided an update on the Mutual Aid Agreement. She stated that Patrick Murphy, City of Mesa, was planning to discuss this item; unfortunately, he was unable to attend the meeting due to a last minute emergency. Ms. Hoffman indicated that a copy of the latest red line version of the Mutual Aid Agreement was provided at each place. She noted that the Mutual Aid Agreement was last presented to the Committee on October 29, 2015. Ms. Hoffman stated that Mr. Murphy is requesting that communities interested in being part of the Mutual Aid Agreement contact him by mid-September 2016 and let him know when you might be taking it to your City Council. He is planning to present the Mutual Aid Agreement to the Mesa City Council in October or November 2016. Ms. Hoffman commented that the Mutual Aid Agreement provides for a streamlined process for communities to seek aid from one another. She stated that questions can be emailed to Mr. Murphy.

Ramona Simpson, Town of Queen Creek, stated that she spoke with Mr. Murphy on August 29, 2016 with regard to a revision to language in Section 2.3 of the Draft Mutual Aid Agreement so that it would allow requests for other emergencies, such as a storm response clean up. She indicated that the Town of Queen Creek does not do its own trash collection; however the Mutual Aid Agreement could also be utilized for storm clean up equipment and personnel. Ms. Simpson commented that the Mutual Aid Agreement is helpful for communities like Queen Creek if there is an emergency or a shortage of vehicles. She stated that the revision to the language may be seen in the next version of the Mutual Aid Agreement.

5. Solid Waste Services for Seasonal Residents/Vacation Holds

Ms. Hoffman presented the solid waste service options for seasonal residents and vacation holds. She stated that on March 29, 2016, a solid waste survey was distributed to the MAG member agencies requesting updated information on solid waste best practices in the region. Ms. Hoffman indicated that the survey also requested information on how communities address solid waste services for seasonal residents and vacation holds. A member of the Committee had expressed

interest in collecting information on solid waste services for seasonal residents and vacation holds to determine the options being provided in the region. Ms. Hoffman noted a great response rate to the survey; she indicated that 26 MAG member agencies provided a response to the seasonal resident and vacation hold question. She thanked the Committee for their participation in the survey.

Ms. Hoffman discussed the solid waste service options available for seasonal residents and vacation holds in the region according to the survey. She noted that respondents could identify more than one option. Ms. Hoffman indicated that a majority of respondents, 20 respondents, stated that customers can leave services active and pay monthly. There were 12 respondents that allow customers to suspend services and pay applicable charges. The option to terminate services and pay to have them reconnected was selected by 11 respondents. Ms. Hoffman stated that six respondents indicated “other”.

Ms. Hoffman presented a table of the options for seasonal residents and vacation holds by jurisdiction. She noted that many communities selected more than one option on the survey. She indicated that the table also offers comparisons to see how communities across the region may differ.

Ms. Hoffman discussed the comments provided by the six respondents that selected “other”. The City of Apache Junction indicated that the Apache Junction City Council has continued with a subscription based private model to provide the greatest flexibility for seasonal and full time residents. Apache Junction noted that because of the model, seasonal residents can change or suspend service on a quarter basis. The Town of Gilbert commented that suspension of service is not an option to ensure Town infrastructure and resources are in place to provide service. The City of Litchfield Park indicated that all options are available through a private provider. Pinal County noted that solid waste services are provided by private providers. The City of Scottsdale commented that customers may disconnect for six months or longer, however it must include all water, sewer, and waste service. Scottsdale indicated that a reinstatement fee applies. The City of Tempe indicated that the City has a policy that customers have to discontinue all services, including solid waste, water/sewer, etc., or none. Tempe noted that there is no charge to reconnect solid waste, however there is a charge to reconnect water/sewer.

Ms. Hoffman stated that MAG staff is working to compile the solid waste best practices in the MAG region information provided by the jurisdictions as part of the survey. She indicated that followup calls have been conducted and the best practices update will be provided at a future Committee meeting.

Mr. van den Akker thanked MAG staff for including this information in the survey. He indicated that the City of Buckeye was interested in what options other communities offer with regard to seasonal residents and vacation holds.

Manuel Castillo, City of Scottsdale, asked Chris Coyle, Arizona Forward, if the options available for seasonal residents and vacation holds vary among communities serviced by Republic Services. Mr. Coyle replied that options do vary among the areas serviced. He stated that options are negotiated with the community directly. Mr. Coyle commented that generally the preferred option is a hold for a maximum of six months.

Mr. Allen inquired approximately what percentage of accounts utilize seasonal or vacation holds. Ms. Simpson responded that Queen Creek is smaller than many communities with approximately 11,000 accounts, however approximately 100 accounts per year utilize the temporary discontinuation of service option. She stated that account holders must pay an administration fee and the hold must be longer than two months with a maximum hold of six months per calendar year. Ms. Simpson commented that residents are happy with the option of a temporary discontinuation of service. Mr. van den Akker replied that the City of Buckeye also has a two to six month option for vacation holds. He stated that the City generally has about 200 vacation holds for their approximately 19,000 accounts. Mr. van den Akker added that approximately 400 vacation holds was the largest number the City experienced in one year.

Robin Thomas, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, asked how communities ensure that accounts are not serviced while on vacation holds. She inquired if containers are collected. Mr. van den Akker responded that Buckeye does not collect containers, however the City is considering a followup audit. He noted that the number of vacation holds is small. Mr. van den Akker also commented on the distance between the holds. He stated that this is one of the reasons for the limited time frame. Ms. Simpson replied that at the Town of Queen Creek the containers stay with the home and residents must give a date of reconnection in which the account is reconnected automatically on that date. She stated that the 100 accounts are manageable if verification is necessary. Ms. Simpson indicated that the resident is paying a \$25 administration fee.

6. Call for Future Agenda Items

Chair Humbles provided the opportunity for Committee members to suggest future agenda items.

Ms. Simpson commented that the Town of Queen Creek could provide a presentation on their outreach campaign titled Shut Your Lid. She stated that the Town recently launched the campaign to educate residents on the importance of shutting the lids on the trash and recycling bins to avoid issues with birds and littering. Ms. Simpson indicated that the Town would be happy to share the components of the campaign and materials with the Committee if there is interest. She commented that the Town should have responses on the success of the campaign to share by the next meeting. The campaign also includes education on recycling contamination which is important to ensure a good recycling revenue rate.

Steven Pietrzykowski, City of Tempe, mentioned that the City of Tempe and the Town of Gilbert are both in the process of executing new recycling contracts. He stated that Tempe and Gilbert could present an overview on the contract process that could be helpful for other communities that do not own a Materials Recovery Facility. Mr. Pietrzykowski indicated that the overview could include how the contract was formatted, the bidding process, and contract evaluation.

Brad Frisk, Town of Gilbert, stated that reporting on recycling vendor responsiveness to the Request for Proposals (RFP) will be interesting. He commented that currently there has not been much of a response on the RFP.

Ginger Spencer, City of Phoenix, discussed that Phoenix would like to do a followup with the Committee on the Top 10 in the Bin Campaign. She stated that at the March 22, 2016 meeting, the Committee suggested a followup with the Valleywide Recycling Partnership (VRP). Ms. Spencer

noted that the Phoenix Recycling Coordinator will be working with VRP to see if there is interest in the Top 10 in the Bin Campaign. She stated that Phoenix can then provide a followup on the campaign. The Top 10 in the Bin is a national initiative created by the Environmental Protection Agency, Keep America Beautiful, the National Waste & Recycling Association, and the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) that would provide for consistent regional messaging on recycling.

Ms. Spencer added that Phoenix would also like to give an update on the City's composting facility once it opens in March 2017. She stated that an update on palm fronds can also be a future agenda item in the fall or winter once the manufacturer sets up operations.

Ms. Simpson suggested a potential future agenda item from the City of Phoenix on the Arizona State University (ASU) Resource Innovation and Solutions Network (RISN) final report that showcases the results of completed research. Ms. Spencer replied that she will follow up with ASU on providing a presentation to the Committee. She indicated that the RISN Green Organics Advisory Committee final report will be coming forward in early September.

Mr. Coyle stated that perhaps someone who is attending or participating in the two-day Circular Economy Business Delegation Tour on October 21, 2016 could present on the conference. He stated that he is helping stage the tour with Republic Services, however he will not be in attendance. Ms. Spencer replied that she will be part of the tour. She indicated that the tour will be a small group that will look into building a circular economy. Ms. Spencer stated that she can send out the tour information and give a presentation after the tour. Chair Humbles noted that the next meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2016.

7. Comments from the Committee

Chair Humbles asked for any comments from the Committee.

Mr. Castillo stated that Scottsdale is continuing with their curbside household hazardous waste (HHW) program. He indicated that it is peak bulk pickup season therefore the City is a little behind. Mr. Castillo inquired if other communities are also experiencing this.

Mr. Pietrzykowski commented that Tempe is launching a third barrel green organics pilot program in October. He stated that the City is also working with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) on permitting the Tempe composting site. Mr. Pietrzykowski added that the City will also be awarding a recycling contract soon that could range from five to 15 years.

Ms. Simpson indicated that Queen Creek has recently launched the Shut Your Lid campaign that ties in recycling contamination. She discussed that the Town recently conducted a recycling audit in an area where there has been issues. Ms. Simpson stated that the Town will perform another audit of the area in October after enhanced outreach to gauge the success of the campaign and outreach. She added that Queen Creek can report on the second audit results as part of the Shut Your Lid campaign presentation.

Ms. Simpson inquired about the review of the variance rule with Maricopa County and ADEQ. Ms. Thomas responded that ADEQ is currently not planning on a rule change or opening the rule. She

stated ADEQ hopes to work around any issues and work with local health departments on variances. Ms. Simpson replied that the language in the rule is vague in which communities have questions on if modifications can be made. She commented on the challenges with the rule with regard to inspections and enforcement. She mentioned that potentially it could be brought up again in the future.

Mr. Pietrzykowsky responded to Ms. Simpson that the communities that he has been a part of count inspections as vector and/or contamination checks. He added that any new containers delivered that have vector issues are counted as part of the effort to mitigate issues. Mr. Pietrzykowsky commented that Tempe aims to inspect approximately 20 percent of the community each year. He noted that a 20 percent inspection rate is not required, however the City feels that this is a good approach to mitigate vector issues due to collecting trash once per week.

Mr. van den Akker stated that the City of Buckeye will soon begin education and enforcement with regard to trash and recycling that will include a safety component. He noted that Buckeye is working with Luke Air Force Base on their Public-Public, Public-Private (P4) initiative. Mr. van den Akker indicated that Luke Air Force Base is looking to work with local communities to collaborate and join resources for efficiency. He stated that they are currently discussing electronic waste and household hazardous waste, however the P4 initiative may include other topics such as Public Works and road infrastructure. Mr. van den Akker stated that the initiative is innovative and Buckeye is excited to see where it leads.

Mr. Coyle responded to Mr. Castillo question on the volume of bulk pickup. He stated that he has seen an increased volume across the region due to the monsoon. Mr. Coyle noted that the 36th Annual Environmental Excellence Awards are September 10, 2016. He indicated that the Arizona Forward Earth Fest Educators Night will take place in October at the Phoenix Zoo. Admission to the Earth Fest Educators Night is free to all Arizona teachers.

Ms. Spencer discussed the Phoenix partnership with ASU and the City's membership with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. She stated that ASU is offering a two day professional Executive Certification in Circular Economy in late September. She stated that anyone interested in the certification can email her directly at ginger.spencer@phoenix.gov.

Adam Kurtz, City of Goodyear, stated that Goodyear will be hosting a regional Household Hazardous Waste collection event on November 5, 2016 at their Public Works facility. The event is being held in collaboration with the cities of Avondale, Litchfield Park, and Tolleson. He mentioned the possibility of including Buckeye in future HHW events. Mr. Kurtz responded to Mr. Castillo's question on increased volume of bulk waste. He indicated that parts of Goodyear experienced storm damage that has caused tonnage and overtime to go up. He mentioned that he reached out to other City departments for assistance because the City was hit hard this year.

Mr. Allen commented that the Salt River Landfill has issued an RFP for rights to landfill gas. He indicated that the existing agreement will be expiring at the end of 2016. Mr. Allen stated that the landfill is looking for a beneficial use for the landfill gas after the local utility closed the power project over a year ago. He mentioned that there was good attendance at the pre-bid RFP meeting.

Mr. Allen added that he is currently serving as President of SWANA, which has a one year term. He indicated that the 2016 SWANA WASTECON event will be held in Baltimore in conjunction with the International Solid Waste Association World Congress event. Representatives will be in attendance from Europe, Asia, and South America to share solid waste practices from around the world. Mr. Allen added that WASTECON will have tours available that may be beyond the local area. He commented that the Arizona Chapter of SWANA did a great job at hosting the Senior Executives Conference this past June. Mr. Allen mentioned that the SWANA Board voted to begin negotiations with the City of Phoenix on hosting the 2019 WASTECON event. He discussed potential dates and noted that turnout may be higher with a potential October date. The last WASTECON event hosted in Arizona was in 2004.

Mr. Pietrzykowski commented that Phoenix was in the running for the 2017 WASTECON event, however there was a disconnect because there was not a solid waste presence from the municipal side. Mr. Pietrzykowski inquired who SWANA is contacting with regard to the event. Mr. Allen replied that he was unsure who SWANA is in contact with regarding the event. Mr. Pietrzykowski commented that perhaps the local SWANA Board could engage the national SWANA Board. Mr. Allen replied that would be helpful. Ms. Spencer responded that there is time to coordinate efforts for the regional event.

Chair Humbles noted that Peoria has completed an RFP and has awarded a contract to a company for a Container Management Program. She stated that the company will deliver containers and perform repair on containers in the field. Chair Humbles indicated that Peoria is looking to fill the Solid Waste Manager position since she has taken the role of Deputy Public Works Director.

Christina Betz, City of Surprise, stated that Surprise launched a campaign in November entitled Recycle Wise in Surprise. She discussed that the City revamped its outreach campaign with plans for a new mascot and has launched a Facebook page for the campaign. Ms. Betz mentioned that Surprise is interested in purchasing equipment for the campaign, such as a truck with a trailer that will feature kiosks. She commented that it will be a similar concept to the Tempe Education Recycling Information Center, but a smaller scale. Ms. Betz stated that Surprise will continue to focus on advertisement of the Recycle Wise in Surprise, along with the possible truck to feature at local and regional outreach events.

Shawn Kreuzwiesner, City of Avondale, stated that Avondale is looking forward to the HHW collection event on November 5, 2016 in cooperation with Goodyear, Litchfield Park, and Tolleson. He added that in response to Mr. Castillo's comment on increased volume of bulk waste, Avondale has seen an increase in tonnage and overtime. Mr. Kreuzwiesner also indicated that Avondale is in discussion with the City of Phoenix for the processing of recycling material.

Ms. Hoffman indicated that MAG will be continuing to compile the responses to the survey for the update to the MAG Solid Waste Best Practices in the MAG Region report to present at a future meeting.

Chair Humbles thanked the Committee for their survey participation. She stated that the next Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 6, 2016. With no further comments, Chair Humbles called for adjournment of the meeting at approximately 10:40 a.m.